

Iran of a nuclear capability? Number two, do we send a message to our allies in the P5+1, that include Russia and China, not exactly our best of friends, but our reluctant allies who we need to guarantee that the tough sanctions that we impose are enforceable?

If we pass sanctions that don't have the cooperation of our allies, they are meaningless. So the question that we have is: Any action that we take, will it increase or diminish our strength in guaranteeing no nuclear weapons in Iran?

#### DMF INCLUDED IN BUDGET AGREEMENT

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for the last 30 years, Social Security has been required to make deceased Americans' Social Security numbers and other personal information public through the so-called "Death Master File." Unfortunately, identity thieves have been using this file to obtain fraudulent tax refunds based on the identity of deceased Americans, particularly children like 4-year-old Alexis Agin here. No grieving family should have to go through this.

To put a stop to this heinous crime, earlier this year, I introduced the Alexis Agin Identity Theft Protection Act with my Democrat colleague XAVIER BECERRA. And thanks to the budget deal, which includes a provision to restrict access to the Death Master File, American families will be better protected from tax fraud.

I salute the Agins for their tireless advocacy, and God bless America.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE EXTENSION

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of over 90,000 unemployed New Jerseyans at the risk of losing their unemployment benefits on December 28 if Congress fails to act before the end of the year.

Despite what my colleagues on the other side think, unemployment insurance helps during hard times, and people forget that we are still recovering from the worst recession since the Great Depression.

Patrick, a carpenter from Rahway, New Jersey, struggles to find employment through no fault of his own. His family will not be able to afford their mortgage if this critical lifeline is cut.

Malene from Maplewood, New Jersey, is an educated professional, but has been unable to find work since February. In her letter, she wrote:

When do my elected officials start caring for me and the millions of other people

struggling to survive—not living, but scraping by?

Vote to extend the unemployment benefits which equate to hope for many families in the new year. I urge the House leadership to address this looming expiration of the unemployment benefits for millions of Americans before leaving this year.

#### YEAR IN REVIEW

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, during last night's town hall by telephone with constituents, I conducted a poll and asked what should be done first to tackle our national debt. Fifty-one percent of participants want Congress to repeal ObamaCare. ObamaCare will add to our national debt as higher premiums and taxes are placing burdens on families and destroying jobs.

Rachel from West Columbia says:

ObamaCare is still very costly for me and my family. At times we have difficulty purchasing food for our family because of my insurance costs.

Robert from Aiken spent time on the Web site and found he "would be paying about two-thirds more for a much worse insurance plan."

2013 should be remembered as the year further revealing the failure and threat of Big Government, with the ObamaCare train wreck, continuing of the Benghazi cover-up, IRS targeting, NSA spying, and DOJ-FBI eavesdropping on media. Congress should act, passing limited government reforms that encourage job creation and expand freedom.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

#### FISHER HOUSE HERO MILES PROGRAM

(Mr. BARROW of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this time of year, as we gather with family and friends, it is important for us to remember the men and women in the military who sacrifice so much for our country. Those who have been injured in battle oftentimes find themselves a long way from home during the holidays.

This year, like every year, I am donating the over 68,000 frequent flyer miles that I received from congressional travel to the Fisher House Hero Miles program, which provides free airline tickets so that American soldiers and their families can be together.

The Fisher House has provided more than 40,000 flights worth some \$63 million to wounded troops and their families. We have got no business keeping these frequent flyer miles for personal

use anyhow, and I don't know of anyone who could make better use of them.

I encourage all Members of Congress to follow my example and give their frequent flyer miles to some charity like the Fisher House. It is not just a good thing to do; it is the right thing to do.

#### MAGNESS LIBRARY

(Mr. DESJARLAIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to commend Magness Library on its 100 years of service to the people of McMinnville in the Fourth District of Tennessee.

Magness Library began as a service project in July 1913 by Mrs. Mary Cunningham and the McMinnville Women's Civic League, with benefactors Colonel Gentry Moffitt and W.H. Magness, to provide a rest stop for families coming into town to sell and trade. In 1917, the library moved to its current location on the corner of Chancery and Main Street, and in 1946, Magness Library joined the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Thanks to generous donations from thousands of patrons, the Magness Library flourished into one of the longest running libraries in our State over the years. The library provides invaluable services to McMinnville, including a strong summer reading program for children and genealogy research for adults.

Congratulations to the Magness Library on their centennial, and I look forward to seeing their successful future endeavors.

#### IRAN INTERIM NUCLEAR AGREEMENT

(Mr. PRICE of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, if the interim nuclear deal negotiated last month leads to a final agreement, Iran can be prevented from developing a nuclear weapon. This would neutralize one of the greatest threats facing the United States, Israel, and the international community and could set the stage for a new era of relations between Iran and the West.

The unprecedented sanctions already in place have brought the Iranian economy to its knees and the government to the negotiating table. We are entering these talks from a position of strength; we have a strong hand to play.

But if Congress rushes through another round of sanctions or takes other action perceived as undermining the negotiations, we will be giving up our hand before we have a chance to play it. Iran would then have an excuse to walk away from the table, and the

international coalition that has been so critical to the current sanctions regime could fracture, thus weakening the leverage we already have.

There is no guarantee that a final deal is possible. But given the stakes involved, we simply must try, for the alternative is far worse. Iran would then be left to develop its nuclear program without supervision, and the U.S. could be drawn into another costly war in the Middle East.

I urge my colleagues to support the interim nuclear agreement and oppose any attempt to undermine our country's diplomacy.

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#### TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, each year, Congress deliberately acts to craft, pass, and sign into law the National Defense Authorization Act, the annual policy bill for the U.S. Department of Defense.

For the first time in 52 years, this may no longer be the case. This year, the House passed its version in June, while the Senate, again, dragged its feet.

Fortunately, earlier this week, congressional leaders reached a compromise that will allow both Chambers to move forward. It includes an important amendment I offered accepted under the House version dealing with the Transitional Assistance Management Program, or TAMP, which offers health care coverage for servicemembers transitioning into civilian life.

All too often, symptoms related to post-traumatic stress do not appear until 8 to 10 months after deployment. The amendment will extend coverage under TAMP by 180 days for all services rendered through telemedicine, which is critical, especially for those coping with mental injuries.

As a father of an Active Duty soldier, I am hopeful we can bring this bill to the finish line and make good on our commitments to our troops and continue meeting our obligations around the world.

#### COMMEMORATING HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Human Rights Day, an occasion to recognize the struggles of individuals all around the world who fight for their basic rights of life, liberty, and security of person.

On March 2, 2011, Jean-Claude Roger Mbende of Cameroon was arrested for, "homosexuality and attempted homosexuality" and sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment.

Jean-Claude is one of the individual cases of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission's Defending Freedoms Project, which seeks to have Members of Congress adopt the case of an individual like Jean-Claude and work for their rights and freedom.

Sadly, cases such as these are far too common in areas of the world where people can be imprisoned for simply exercising their basic human rights.

I call upon the Cameroonian authorities to live up to their obligation to respect and protect the rights of Jean-Claude Mbende and all Cameroonians.

I pledge to continue to follow his story and do what I can to secure his safety. I hope my colleagues will join me in taking up cases from the Defending Freedoms Project, and that, together, we can ensure justice for wrongly imprisoned individuals all across the world.

#### THE EMAIL PRIVACY ACT

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, the number of Americans who support updating our electronic communication privacy laws is growing every day. Just today, The Washington Post reported that over 100,000 Americans have signed a petition asking President Obama to support changes in the 27-year-old privacy law called the Electronic Communications Privacy Act that currently allows government agents to search Americans' private emails without a warrant.

The Constitution prohibits government from searching postal mail without a warrant. It defies common sense that emails should have any less protection.

Our existing laws were written before Facebook and Google even existed. Just think how far we have come in regard to Internet technology. It is time to update these laws.

The American people are shocked when they learn that their emails do not have the same privacy protections as their mail and other documents in their homes. That is why I introduced H.R. 1852, the Email Privacy Act, a bipartisan bill to affirm that Americans have a reasonable expectation of privacy in their emails.

Mr. Speaker, it is time Congress and the President worked together to update our email privacy laws. I urge the House to pass this needed legislation.

#### EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, over the next few weeks, the American people will be celebrating the warmth of the holidays with friends and family alike.

But for nearly 1.3 million people, the situation will be desperate. The pains

of long-term unemployment will be compounded as their benefits totally run out on December 28.

These people have struggled for months on end to find work after losing a job. They include thousands of veterans who recently completed their military service, and they include families who need unemployment benefits to clothe their children and put food on the table.

It is unconscionable that this budget deal does not protect these vulnerable families who had no part in causing the recession that put them in such dire circumstances.

As we go into this holiday season, let us help those in greatest need. Extend unemployment benefits.

#### CONGRATULATING THE DESALES COLTS, KENTUCKY'S 2013 CLASS 2A HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, last weekend in Louisville, the world-famous Twin Spires of Churchill Downs glowed orange in support of something the hallowed track knows well, a champion.

The DeSales High School Colts of Louisville's South End entered the State championship on a streak of dominance, posting six shutouts, and holding opponents to just 9.4 points per game. When they lined up against Newport Central Catholic to play for the title on Saturday, the DeSales defense hadn't allowed a point in 2 weeks.

Fueled by three touchdowns from all-time leading rusher Dylan Byrd, two passing scores from quarterback Nathan Roush, and a defense anchored by middle linebacker Matt Bouchard, the Colts overcame a tough opponent 34-26, taking State for the first time in school history.

The title caps a remarkable 14-1 season for the Colts, who became only the second South End team ever to win State.

For DeSales Head Coach Harold Davis, the title run offered a nice symmetry. Davis was a senior safety on the 1981 DeSales team, one of only two others in school history to play in the finals.

The debate over the best Colts team in school history will continue back home, but there is no question this year's team now stands at the top. They might have been outsized through much of the playoffs, but they were never outmatched or outplayed.

Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to join all of Louisville in honoring the DeSales Colts, Kentucky's 2013 Class 2A High School football champions. Go Colts.

#### A UNIQUE MOMENT IN HISTORY

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)